

House File 540 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY MERTZ and DRAKE

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to soil and water conservation district work
2 projects supporting water protection practices, and providing
3 an effective date.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
5 TLSB 2445HH 82
6 da/gg/14

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1 1 Section 1. Section 161C.2, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code
1 2 2007, is amended to read as follows:
1 3 b. Any work project with an estimated cost in excess of
1 4 the competitive bid threshold in section 26.3, or as
1 5 established in section 314.1B, shall be undertaken as a public
1 6 contract as provided in chapters 73A and 573. However, the
1 7 district may waive the requirement for a bond as provided in
1 8 section 573.2 for a project, if the district estimates that
1 9 the cost of the project is less than the competitive bid
1 10 threshold provided in section 26.3. The local contracting

1 11 organization shall designate a contracting officer and shall
1 12 establish procedures to manage the contract, approve bills for
1 13 payment, and review proposed change orders or amendments to
1 14 the contract.

1 15 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of
1 16 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

1 17 EXPLANATION

1 18 Code chapter 161C provides for water protection projects
1 19 and practices. Code section 161C.2 authorizes a soil and
1 20 water conservation district to carry out projects to protect
1 21 this state's groundwater and surface water from point and
1 22 nonpoint sources of contamination. The Code section provides
1 23 that any work project is governed under Code chapter 573 which
1 24 provides processes for contracting for public improvements.
1 25 Code section 573.2 requires the posting of a performance bond
1 26 for a contract involving a public improvement for \$25,000 or
1 27 more. This bill provides that the commissioners of a soil and
1 28 water conservation district may waive the requirement if they
1 29 estimate the cost of the project will not exceed the general
1 30 competitive bid threshold of \$100,000 for general construction
1 31 bidding as provided in Code section 26.3 (see 2006 Iowa Acts,
1 32 ch. 1017).

1 33 The bill takes effect upon enactment.

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